

PEACE NEWS

The International Pacifist Weekly

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September 22, 1950

THREEPENCE

REAL CIVIL DEFENCE What you should do now

DR. ALEX COMFORT, well-known broadcaster and scientist, has written the latest Peace Pledge Union leaflet, now available for the widest possible door to door distribution. It reads:

All responsible people hope that Britain will never again be involved in war. But experience has shown that it would be folly to be unprepared. If our cities should ever again be the object of attack, it will be the duty of every citizen to take what steps he can to protect himself and help his neighbours. Though war is neither imminent nor inevitable, there are certain steps which you, as a householder, should take NOW.

CIVIL DEFENCE AGAINST AIR ATTACK

If war breaks out, it is very probable that most of our great cities will be destroyed within the first few days, possibly within two weeks of the start of hostilities. We must therefore be prepared to defend ourselves against aerial bombardment. This could only be prevented if we were to spend a sum exceeding our annual income in dispersing all our population, or in constructing shelters deep enough to be proof against radiation. Such shelters could only be made available in practice for members of the Government and for essential staff. The ordinary householder can protect himself in three main ways:

1. He can clear out of the country now, while the going is good.
2. He can wrap himself in brown paper, as suggested by Sir John Anderson, get under the kitchen table, and hope for the best.
3. He can stand at the next General Election, get into the Cabinet, and issue inspiring appeals for endurance from the deep shelters under Whitehall.

For those to whom none of these alternatives appeal, there is only one course open—see that war does not break out. If it does, you will almost certainly be killed, and Western civilisation will cease to exist. Take your precautions now.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TODAY

Get it out of your head that there is nothing you can do to stop it. Millions of pounds are being spent through the Press, the BBC, and the political parties to get your support for war-like preparation. Get it out of your head, too, that a war will be a "lesser evil" and will defend you against Communism. If war comes, there will be no winner, no loser, and nothing to defend. If you doubt this, take a look at the pictures of Hiroshima. It's peace or nothing now.

Watch out for propaganda. For a Government to make war, it has first to convince its public that the other side can understand nothing but force, and that its own motives are beyond reproach. All the alliances it forms are peace precautions, all the military moves it makes are police actions to preserve law and order, everyone who criticises it is pro-enemy.

You are thoroughly familiar with this technique, both in the British Press, in the nine o'clock news, and in their Russian and American equivalents. The fact of the matter is that a competition for power is in progress between two irresponsible groups of politicians, and you, together with the Russian and American public and everyone else, is in the middle.

Shout, and shout at the top of your voice. No Government will go to war if it can't rely on the support of its public. See that it knows it won't have YOUR support. What about your Trade Union, your Co-operative Society, your Church, your local papers? Talk to your friends about it. Join with other people who think the same way to make your voice heard.

Weigh up the risks. Of course there is danger in saying "peace at any price"—but Britain faced the dangers and hardships of war, and today, when war means the certainty of total collapse, moral, economic and social, we've got to show the same courage. We are not choosing between tyranny and war, but between war and annihilation on one hand and the determination to find some other way of dealing with totalitarianism on the other. It's worth trying—demand that we stop threatening to massacre the Russians with atomic bombs, force the authorities to make reasonable proposals on disarmament, instead of scheme designed to be turned down by the other side.

And remember, Stalin, Truman and Bevin won't fight with their own fists—they depend on YOU. Let them know where you stand. And do it now, because you haven't much time left. (See also "Can you argue the case for peace"—page four).

BRITAIN MUST TRY A NEW DIPLOMACY

"A policy of bigger armies is futile"—Emrys Hughes, MP

THROUGHOUT this Debate there is one complete delusion. It is that we are going to get security and safety for this nation by continuing an arms race and piling up armaments and building a greater Army. I regard that as a delusion and I challenge it completely."

This challenge to the Government was made by Emrys Hughes, MP. Hon. Treasurer of the Peace Pledge Union, in the Commons Debate on the Government's defence proposals last week. His was one of several speeches by pacifists and others who were critical of Government policy (extracts from which appear on pages 4 and 5).

Quoting his recent letter to the Manchester Guardian, which had received no editorial reply, he said:

"If we have more conscription, if we call up more men, if we increase the number of our divisions, what will be the reaction in the USSR and the countries behind the Iron Curtain?

"Will they say, 'That finished us?' Or will they say, 'We must protect the USSR and our own country by piling up more armaments and having more conscription?'

"Supposing they do that—and Poland has already done it; then we shall find that next year the relative position is just as it was.

"Indeed, we may find that, if Moscow has decided to call up more conscripts, to call up the Mongolians and the Siberians and the people from Turkistan, then from the point of view of the relative manpower in our armies we are worse off than ever.

"When the Prime Minister says all this is for peace, I reply that there is no sign to be seen from reading history that we shall achieve more peace by piling up our armaments.

"The inevitable result in other countries will be that they will say from their point of view:

"We need more men, more armaments, more bombs, more tanks; we need all these ways and means of defending ourselves against the aggressor—and the aggressor, in this case, happens to be us."

Mr. Beverley Baxter (C., Southgate): Was that why Germany went to war? Was Germany in fear of us?

Mr. Hughes: Certainly Germany was in fear of being encircled. If Mr. Baxter is so afraid of Germany, perhaps he is not in favour of a policy of rearming Germany, as suggested by Mr. Churchill.

Emrys Hughes then turned to the increased rates of pay for serving soldiers and declared them a fraud upon the people being asked to enlist. He said:

"What happens to the rise in pay. Will it be subject to income tax? (Hon. Members: Yes). If so, we are going to take the money back in the other hand.

"Are there to be higher taxes on beer? Are there to be increased taxes on cigarettes? These are the things the soldier buys mostly, and when the Chancellor of the Exchequer tells us how he is going to pay the bill we shall be taking the increases in pay back either in Income Tax or in taxation on the commodities the soldier consumes.

SOLDIER'S WARNING

"At home, will the soldier's wife be any better off? We shall have increases in the cost of clothing, boots and food.

"There is no escape from this economic dilemma, and I say it is a sham and a fraud and an imposition on the soldiers of this country to say they are getting any real increase of wages as a result of these proposals.

"The plain fact is that the soldiers of the last war are so sick of the very idea of war that they are telling their sons and friends to keep out of it if they can, and that is why they are not flocking to the recruiting centres.

"I do not believe there is any solution of this man-power problem. I am prepared to be judged by events. I do not believe that there is in this country the man-power, in either volunteers or conscripts, to build up the armies which the Service chiefs say are necessary.

"On May 12, 1949, the present Foreign Secretary (Mr. Bevin) put the case for the Atlantic Treaty. His argument in asking the House to support it was that once the Atlantic Treaty had become a recognised fact, it would mean a change in the policy of the Soviet Union.

He even argued that as a result of the

"Man wants but little here below..."

If we want to prevent war we must have at least a hundred squadrons of bombers and of fighters.

With regard to our air bases throughout the world. Are they properly equipped?

Are the runways capable of taking the largest and fastest machines, or is that going to be done when war breaks out?

Have the bases adequate supplies of oil and machinery for repair work?

Have they radar equipment? Are all the telephones which will be necessary laid down? If they are not already installed, can they be installed within a day?

—Viscount Trenchard, House of Lords, Sept. 12, 1950.

...nor wants that little long."

Governments of Roumania and Hungary and all the other occupied countries will say, 'Yes, this is the German menace coming again.' I do not see at the end of this road any real security at all.

I do not believe that this world can be divided into peace-loving democracies and aggressor countries which are in favour of war. If one reads the Russian Press and the American Press these days and listens to and reads comments from American generals, one will find that from the point of view of bellicosity the Americans can beat the Russians every time.

President Truman has to repudiate some general every other day. He has actually had to repudiate General MacArthur, and I do not believe that if we follow blindly the policy that is practically dictated by the USA we are really making our contribution to the solution of this great international problem.

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD DO NOW

"With the prospect of a 'global Korea' in front of us, is it not time we tried a new kind of diplomacy, a new kind of appeal to the so called aggressor country and once more asked them to face the fact, as General Marshall has admitted, that neither side can possibly win another war?

It should be the business of the Government at the present time to outline a new world plan in which it could be clearly stated how the economic and financial resources of the world could be used for the benefit of all the nations of the world. I believe that is the main line on which we can hope to deal with the problem."

After protesting against attempts to end East-West trade, which he said would create economic chaos in Europe and be followed by hunger and poverty upon which Communism would thrive, Emrys Hughes concluded:

"If the objective of our policy is to discourage Communism, we have to find an alternative policy to Communism, a policy which will appeal to the idealism of mankind. That will not be done by proceeding with the policies and methods that are outlined in this futile policy of bigger armies and more armaments."

"BAN ALL ARMS" — Ehrenburg

ILYA EHRENBURG, Soviet writer who recently attended the Peace Conference of the Communist-sponsored British Peace Committee in this country, writing of the World Movement in Pravda says:

The Movement stands for the banning of all arms and not only the atom bomb. The call for a ban on the atomic bomb was only a first step. . . . We have never been supporters of ordinary bombs, tanks and mortars. The peace supporters propose discussion on a general reduction in armaments in America and the Soviet Union, in Britain and France, and in all other countries.

Korea gets equivalent of 12 atom bombs

THE Editor of the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists (USA) wrote in July, 1950:

A lone Conservative member of the British Parliament has suggested that the way to finish the Korean war in a hurry is to drop an atomic bomb on the capital of North Korea. This suggestion is obviously absurd. Flattening the capital of Northern Korea with or without killing tens of thousands of its inhabitants would not destroy the fighting capacity of the Communist army; but it would immeasurably strengthen their cause in the eyes of the world, and weaken the cause for which America is fighting. Having destroyed the cities of Communist-led North Korea, would the next step be to destroy Communist-occupied Seoul, the capital of the South Korean Republic, whose freedom and independence we are defending?"

On Sept. 14, it was announced that up to midnight on Sept. 12, 24,000 tons

of bombs had been dropped on Korea by the U.S. Air Force.

It was estimated that the atom bomb dropped on Hiroshima equalled 20,000 tons of ordinary bombs, but because of the "wasted" blast due to concentration, the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey of Japan declare the atom bomb's "effective equivalent to be that of 2,000 tons of ordinary bombs."

The consequences of atomic bombing foreseen by the U.S. Atomic Scientists' Editorial have been brought about with ordinary HEs.

FACTS WE STILL AWAIT

What is now awaited are figures for Women killed; Children killed; Old people killed; Children under five maimed for life; Homes, hospitals, schools, destroyed; Homeless, wounded, insane, orphans, widows.

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REARMAMENT

By Roy Sherwood

AS certain to fail in averting war in the long run as their predecessors, the new rearmament programmes under the joint western defence plan can be relied upon to hasten along the clash they are meant to prevent.

Unless the Russians have reason to hope that they will be able to equal and to overtake the West in means of atomic warfare within the time it will take the West to catch up with them in ordinary military strength, they will have been presented with a powerful motive for starting an early "self-defensive" war. Only people who deny the Soviets' right to be as frightened of the West as the West is of the Soviets can fail to see this. The Russians will not fail to see it, with every passing week altering to their disadvantage the uneasy balance now existing between their military superiority and the West's preponderance in atomic bombs.

Other reasons, too, of a more general kind, render the new armaments programmes particularly futile as war preventers. In periods of prolonged international tension there always comes a point when the enervating state of affairs strains people's patience so much that even war begins to look like the lesser of two evils.



This time, that point will be reached in a very short while. On former occasions, armaments races have begun in far less troublesome conditions. This one begins at a moment when, as far as our own country is concerned, the rank-and-file of Trade Unionists, acting through their delegates, have just voted against their TUC platform on the question of pegged wages, to express discontent with their present living standards.

By a miracle, perhaps not altogether unconnected with that vote, we have escaped an Autumn Budget. But April is only six months away, and, as the French say, we "shall lose nothing for waiting."

This coincides with increases in service pay, to stimulate a faster flow of recruits into the forces. To the precise extent to which improved conditions prove successful in attracting recruits, they will diminish, even by themselves, the labour force available to produce consumer goods for the public. But they will not be by themselves.



The new defence programme, introduced by Mr. Attlee in the House of Commons with a warning that it will "entail sacrifices from everybody," represents a sum of £3,600,000,000. It will at once reduce the volume of consumer goods produced by engineering, textile and chemical factories. It will cause the diversion of between 200,000 and 300,000 men from civilian to armaments work. It will—and this is a serious matter—slow down the already inadequate rate of building new houses. And, lest anyone indulge in the selfish fancy that he personally might not be affected by any of these things, it is admitted that it will cause a rise in the cost of living.

It is not even certain that it has the advantage of upsetting the Kremlin in the execution of any of its plans. "Spontaneous" troubles may still be engineered in Persia; in a number of places in the South-Eastern Pacific, and in Yugoslavia to harass and to diffuse Western strength without directly implicating the Soviets. And beyond and above such possibilities stands the supremely simple master-plan of Kremlin strategy: to encourage the West by all means possible to bankrupt itself—to let its own stupidity fight the fight for Communism. There is nothing in the new defence plan to show that the West has realised even the nature of its task: Communism is not to be out-fought. It must be out-thought.

I RENOUNCE WAR AND I WILL NEVER SUPPORT OR SANCTION ANOTHER

This pledge, signed by each member, is the basis of the Peace Pledge Union. Send YOUR pledge to

P.P.U. HEADQUARTERS

Dick Sheppard House, Endsleigh St., W.C.1

IF the world were run on really sensible lines the peoples of every continent would now be feeling deeply concerned about the food deficiencies experienced in India, and would be taking active steps to contribute towards the alleviation of the trouble there.

The threat of famine is due, paradoxically, to floods in the north and to drought further south. The vagaries of the monsoon have upset the delicate balance of a national food production programme, and the great earthquake in Assam has further bedevilled the position. Food is usually exported from Assam, but about 100,000 tons of rice was lost in the floods which followed the earthquake and now food is having to be flown into Assam.

The worst-hit area of the sub-continent is the Deccan, where many are now unable to get enough food to maintain them in health.

Where world's resources are needed

INDIA will doubtless obtain some help from her distress from areas of the world, such as North America, where there is an excess of grain at the present time. In this country the High Commissioner has appealed for voluntary aid in relieving destitution in Assam.

Yet what help can come from abroad will be small in comparison with what could be made available if the international relief of distress were a first call on the budgets of the nations and not a sort of after-thought.

For an emergency such as this, threatening one of the two biggest concentrations of population in the world, the full resources of the world should be available, with plans for their deployment all ready to be carried into effect.

These threats of famine do not emerge from the blue. China and India are perennially subject to them. And if, as I say, this was a world conducted on rational lines such matters would be major topics of political discussion and action everywhere—not only in one continent but in every continent. For it would be understood that a menace to the well-being of one nation struck at the happiness of all.

New life in the desert . . .

ANOTHER piece of world news of great importance comes from Moscow—the news of plans to reclaim most of the Kara Kum Desert by an irrigation system fed by a canal running east from the Caspian Sea to the Amu Daria River.

It is hoped to water 3,100,000 acres of cotton and 15,000,000 acres of pasture and to bring electric power to the wilderness from new hydro-electric works.

Pravda, quoted by Reuter, says: "For ages the peoples of the Orient have been cherishing the dream of crystal-clear rivers

YOU, ME, AND THE KOREAN WAR

By Dr. C. R. Woodard

A Conservative member of the Ealing Borough Council.

believing all war wrong, I came to the conclusion that as much blame rested on one side as the other.

I said so in the Press. I was immediately dubbed a Communist. I took the trouble to point out that, in my view, the world issue was between two opposed philosophies, Christianity and Communism. I asserted that I spoke as a Christian. The Conservatives, through my fellow Councillors and others, ranted and raved. They contributed nothing but abuse, convincing me more than ever that their consciences were not very clear about the matter.

*

The war may only be in Korea at the moment. It will very soon be a world issue. Let us face the facts. General MacArthur has said that he wants Formosa and other islands to build up a vast defensive air force.

Do we believe that re-arming will end war? We do not.

Do we believe that we can ever enforce Christianity on the Asiatics, or indeed anyone else, by force? We do not.

Can Christianity prevail over Communism by force? It cannot.

True Christianity makes Communism appear totally inadequate to the fundamental needs of the human race, but Christianity as misrepresented by politicians and Church leaders is heading straight for destruction, because it is false.

I am always being charged with being impractical and unrealistic in my views. Is it so wrong to try and live up to the Christian ideals?

For too long the world has made a compromise with the Devil. Can anyone honestly pretend that we have decreased the threat of war in any degree by resorting to it in both 1914 and 1939? War will never end war. The practising realistic Christian must oppose it ABSOLUTELY.

Unfortunately millions of our coloured brothers are being forced now to choose between the two philosophies I have mentioned. They are going to make the wrong choice unless we represent the Christ as He

Commentary

By JOHN FRIEND

and flourishing orchards in the desert, the dream of a fairland of happiness. Now only a few years separate us from the time when the desert of black sands will be converted into a golden valley of fertility.

... if death does not intervene

"ONLY a few years separate us . . ." But think what may be going to happen in those few years, such things as can wreck, perhaps for centuries, such splendid schemes as this, and everything else finely constructive which is being dreamed of and planned today in all parts of the world.

Not only the Kara Kum irrigation scheme, and famine prevention in India and China, but houses for English John and Joan and good schools for their children—the worthwhileness of every struggle for better things today—depends upon solving the puzzle of war. And the statesman's only solution to the puzzle at the moment is to wage war and claim thereby to be preventing a bigger war.

The policies of the Kremlin, of Washington and Whitehall all alike contain the seeds of destruction of the Kara Kum plan and every other like it.

Set free for the slaughter

THE air is full of talk of the rehabilitation of former enemy nations, of their reinstatement as equals in a united family. A deadlock exists at the moment among the ex-victors about the reinstatement of West Germany, but a solution may be found before long. American plans are well advanced for the rehabilitation of an independent Japan.

The tragic thing is that there is hardly any substance in all this talk except the crudest self-interest, and the proposed insignia of freedom are merely our old friends the Tommy-gun and the bomb.

The ex-enemies must be "freed" in order that they may join in the slaughter.

Kagawa, the great Japanese Christian, who wanted Japan to be free but to remain, as her present constitution directs, unarmed, must be feeling very bitter at the war atmosphere of these latest moves.

"It is felt here," says The Times correspondent in Washington, "that Japan, as the only industrialised nation in the Far East,

would represent an important prize for Russia . . . and that she might be persuaded to join the democratic world of her own free will. It is therefore desirable to offer her generous terms."

But what service can be done to Japan or the cause of liberty in this utterly selfish, "be honest-because-it-is-the-best-policy-and-only-when-it-serves-your-purpose" spirit? The Japanese will see through it at once, and will know that they need entertain no sentiment of gratitude to their liberators.

Graveside warning

THERE was a dramatic moment in the funeral service of General Smuts. Reuter says that the Rev. J. Reyneke, one of the two officiating ministers, declared that the death of General Smuts was "the voice of God to South Africa" challenging her to check the worsening of racial relations among her peoples. He said he feared that the relationship between black and white grew more and more bitter, and then he added: "God's voice calls. Will we respond?"

It is fitting that such words should have been spoken at the funeral of Smuts, man who, despite what one feels to be considerable limitation of outlook on this racial question, did nevertheless stand for principles of inter-racial reconciliation.

There were astounding contradictions in Smut's make-up, and it need surprise one that Smuts, the implacable opponent of the rights of Indians in Natal, came later years to venerate the genius of Gandhi, who in his youth had made cause of those Indians his own and whom they had held out against all that Smuts could do.

TESTAMENT OF FAITH

When the war clouds gather
And the day grows dim,
The seekers after God shall trust in Him.

Though ruin threatens
The bounds of space,
The lovers of the Lord shall see His face.

Hell and its legions
Go thundering by,
But the peace-makers carry His standard high.

Beyond death's night
Lies the hour of birth
When they, the meek, shall inherit the earth.

Vera Brittain

really is. Is it too late to appeal to people on these lines? Or are they intent on self-destruction?

It was we, the Western Democracies, who dropped the first atomic bombs, and in so doing we created in the minds of millions of Asiatics a fund of hatred that will take centuries to eradicate. We need to realise that though Communism may be evil, we have sinned grievously too. Resist not evil; Be anxious for nothing; Strive to do good. Are all these just impossible platitudes?

CONSTRUCTIVE PEACEMAKING

A FORTNIGHT ago I appealed for special contributions to the Peace Pledge Union's Headquarters Fund on the grounds that the full policy of pacifism presents the only alternative to a third world war.

Our constructive peacemaking embraces many practical proposals for removing the fear and suspicion which bedevils the international situation, including a plan for ending the present conflict in Korea and preventing the extension of it.

Amongst other proposals, we have always advocated the persistent effort to establish closer contact with those countries whose trust and friendship we do not at present enjoy. Though attempts to obtain an invitation to secure a peace delegation to visit Russia have not so far been successful, when you read this I shall be in Yugoslavia as one of a delegation which has been invited for the purpose of making a report on the conditions there.

It is therefore from very near the "Iron Curtain" if not actually behind it that I am asking you to help to break through the walls which divide mankind and build the ONE WORLD to which all our efforts at constructive peacemaking lead.

You can take a real share through a contribution to Headquarters Fund.

STUART MORRIS
General Secretary

We have budgetted for an expenditure in 1950 of £5,000, of which we hope to raise £650 by these appeals.

To date we have received £362 16s. 5d. Donations to the Peace Pledge Union Fund, should be sent marked "Headquarters Fund," to the PPU Treasurer at Dick Sheppard House, Endsleigh Street, W.C.1.

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CHINESE CHRISTIANS IN USA ARE GOING HOME

"Our country needs us"

YOUNG Chinese Christians in the USA are returning to their homeland in increasing numbers as they learn of the great opportunities open for them in the new China. Sharing in their keenness are American Christian pacifists anxious to "help China when she needs help, and thus contribute to world brotherhood."

Dr. Kenneth K. C. K'an, who is relinquishing a well-paid post at Glen Lake Sanatorium, Minnesota, gave the following answer when asked why he was leaving the USA:

"I am returning to China because I think I am more needed and more useful there."

For instance, let us compare the TB situation in an average American city, Minneapolis, for example, with that in the city of Peking.

The death rate from TB per 100,000 population in 1943 was 32 in Minneapolis and 30 in Peking. Deaths in 1943: Minneapolis 160, Peking 4,000. Sanatorium beds available: Minneapolis 691, Peking 250. Beds per TB death: Minneapolis 4.3, Peking

In Minneapolis, a couple of dozen TB specialist physicians serve a population of about half-a-million, but in Peking for a population of about two million, you can

count the TB physicians on the fingers of one hand.

"Peking is supposed to be one of the few cities in China with the best modern medical facilities and most modern medical personnel. If we take China as a whole, the TB situation is even more desperate. That is why I think I am more needed and useful in China."

"It is true that my income may not be very high, and my living conditions may not be very comfortable. But I am sure that my income will not be lower than that of any other average Chinese with similar training and experience."

The American professor of surgery at Peking Union Medical College, Dr. Loucks, told a meeting of Chinese students in New York during his vacation recently:

"Working conditions in China now are very good. If you folks want to serve your people and help in the reconstruction of your country, this is the time for you to consider returning to China."

Dr. Loucks is back at his post in Peking.

Dr. Ch'iu, chief of the Peking TB centre said in a letter to friends in the USA: "We have almost finished our first year in BCG (a form of TB 'vaccination'). On the whole it has been very successful. For this year, even under great financial difficulty, the Chinese Government has voluntarily doubled our allocation for its work."

Returning with a peace message

Another young Chinese Christian pacifist, Mrs. Clara K'an, writes in a farewell letter to members of the Brethren Church in the USA:

"After one and one-half-year's stay in the USA, and at this time of departure, I have so many thoughts in my heart I want to say, so much joy and gratitude which I want to express that I feel my language is inadequate.

"Among my experiences there which I think is most significant. That is the great brotherly love emphasised by our church folks.

"This love is the hope of the world and is the hope of eternal peace. This love is a strong tie among all the Christians of different lands, uniting them in one fellowship. With this experience I have greater faith in Christianity and also in this great Christian fellowship between Christians in America and those in China.

"I have noticed, with this great love of brotherhood, many of the US church folks have emphasised a closer and stronger fellowship with Christians in China now, in spite of the political changes there. This is indeed a significant and happy message for me to take back to members of our church in China as well as to all Chinese Christians.

"I have learned that the new China has announced freedom of religion and so Christian activities are still possible in Peking.

"Under the spreading hatred, fear and prejudices among different nations, Christians of the world need to unite in one fellowship to help the peoples of different nations to understand and love one another.

"Christians in China now have a great challenge in front of them. They need encouragement and support.

"I feel it is hard to leave many good sisters and brothers among our home church folks in the U.S. now. But I am eager to get back to China to share with folks of our Church in China my precious and happy experiences and messages I learned in the USA.

"Please continue to stand by China and remember us in your prayers, Farewell."

"China needs me"

Another young Chinese student of Chicago, about to leave, wrote in the weekly journal of the Brethren: "China has many problems, modernisation is urgent. The duty falls mostly upon our young generation.

"I have received educational opportunities above most Chinese and realise that these imply duty to my people. The Christian teachings tell me how to live by the Bible and find the real meaning of life.

"China needs me. For the good of the people of China, I wish to shoulder my task and perform my duty there."

Americans going too

In Portland, Oregon, George and Rae Mason, American citizens and Christian pacifists are waiting the issue of passports by the State Department so that they may

count the TB physicians on the fingers of one hand.

"Peking is supposed to be one of the few cities in China with the best modern medical facilities and most modern medical personnel. If we take China as a whole, the TB situation is even more desperate. That is why I think I am more needed and useful in China."

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"Working conditions in China now are very good. If you folks want to serve your people and help in the reconstruction of your country, this is the time for you to consider returning to China."

Dr. Loucks is back at his post in Peking.

Dr. Ch'iu, chief of the Peking TB centre said in a letter to friends in the USA: "We have almost finished our first year in BCG (a form of TB 'vaccination'). On the whole it has been very successful. For this year, even under great financial difficulty, the Chinese Government has voluntarily doubled our allocation for its work."

"After one and one-half-year's stay in the USA, and at this time of departure, I have so many thoughts in my heart I want to say, so much joy and gratitude which I want to express that I feel my language is inadequate.

"Among my experiences there which I think is most significant. That is the great brotherly love emphasised by our church folks.

"This love is the hope of the world and is the hope of eternal peace. This love is a strong tie among all the Christians of different lands, uniting them in one fellowship. With this experience I have greater faith in Christianity and also in this great Christian fellowship between Christians in America and those in China.

"I have noticed, with this great love of brotherhood, many of the US church folks have emphasised a closer and stronger fellowship with Christians in China now, in spite of the political changes there. This is indeed a significant and happy message for me to take back to members of our church in China as well as to all Chinese Christians.

"I have learned that the new China has announced freedom of religion and so Christian activities are still possible in Peking.

"Under the spreading hatred, fear and prejudices among different nations, Christians of the world need to unite in one fellowship to help the peoples of different nations to understand and love one another.

"Christians in China now have a great challenge in front of them. They need encouragement and support.

"I feel it is hard to leave many good sisters and brothers among our home church folks in the U.S. now. But I am eager to get back to China to share with folks of our Church in China my precious and happy experiences and messages I learned in the USA.

"Please continue to stand by China and remember us in your prayers, Farewell."

"China needs me." From China comes news, published in the Church Times (Sept. 8) that the Anglican Communion have elected Chinese Bishops to carry on the work of European Bishops who have left the country. In a Pastoral Letter the Chinese Bishops declare:

"Christ is the Prince of Peace, and our Church has therefore in all its history stood for the promotion of peace. We are opposed to every form of weapon which cruelly slaughters human beings."

"In order to strengthen our Church and to prepare ourselves to overcome difficulties we propose that from now on, for the next year, all Christians throughout the country use a few minutes at noon every day in mutual prayer, thus constantly reminding ourselves of our common mission and responsibilities."

Writing from Shanghai, Ernest L. Ikenberry of the American Church of the Brethren declares: "The Church in China would

return to Yenching where there is an opening for them to teach engineering and exert influence for Christ."

"There are about a million Protestant Christians in China and about 5,000 ordained clergy. The Church is not an infant but a rather husky 'young adult'."

Peace News Campaign

All S. Midlands readers of Peace News should make a point of hearing

Bernard J. Boothroyd

Editor of "Peace News"

"Yaffle" of "Reynolds News"

at a Public Meeting on

PEACE and the PRESS

Saturday, Oct. 21 at 6.0 p.m.

in the

Friends Meeting House

Wellington St., Northampton

Chairman: Rev. H. O. Evans, B.Sc.

Particulars from the organiser:
Alison Coles, 28 Hillside Rd., Wellingborough

LL DEBATE

dence that Russia's intentions — "G ideological — are overwhelmingly Hinchinbrooke, MP

"We are told that there are 25,000 Russian tanks. Are they all in repair? Are some of them still being produced in the factories, are they in reserve or are they rusting in the fields, as we read of agricultural equipment rusting in the fields? Or are they all poised for immediate attack against the West? Those are questions to which I should like to know the answers.

"I am told that they are slow-moving infantry tanks, which makes one think that they are more for establishing a defensive line than for a sweeping attack.

"They do not seem to be the sort of tanks that could run through France and Belgium like the German tanks did.

"I am told that 70 to 80 per cent. of Russia's air force is defensive, which, again, rather supports the defensive theory. As for submarines, I do not want to make an observation in this House that seems flippant on a subject of immense gravity, but if this country is to be turned into an aircraft carrier for American atomic bombs, it is no small wonder that the Russians are developing a submarine fleet to torpedo it.

"I hope very much that we can develop suitable devices to deal with those submarines, but every step one takes in these circumstances brings about a greater threat of war to our own country. It causes more effort to be put into a defensive system, whereas if the actual bombing site were

transferred elsewhere one would be able to save a great deal of effort.

"We must also ask what intentions Russians have towards the West from an ethnic, economic and ideological point of view.

"There surely is no parallel between now and 1938 and 1939. Hitler had ethnic and economic reasons for attacking the West.

"The Russians have no ethnic reasons. They have no economic reasons, unless one is to say that Marshal Stalin must grab the factories and cities of the West to sustain himself with the civilisation which flows from them.

"The Russians already have enormous territory undeveloped. We read only this morning in the newspapers of the intention to spend millions of pounds on converting a desert.

"What economically profitable to them is there in an attack on Western Europe? We can see nothing of the kind. Would it be for crusading purposes?

"If Communism is a crusade which is to be followed up ruthlessly by armed force why is not Tito invaded because of his deviation from Moscow and brought back to the Communist line?

"These seem to me some of the questions we have to ask."

LABOUR'S GREATEST MISTAKE : TO TRUST IN ARMED FORCE

— James Hudson, MP

"I BELIEVE that we are all in a state of nerves and fear—including the Government and Opposition—to such a degree that it is difficult for us to determine exactly what is the danger in the world," said Mr. James Hudson (Lab., Ealing, North) in the first speech opposing the Government's rearmament policy in the House last week.

He recalled international socialist conferences at which his blood had run cold when he heard the extreme views preached about what could be done by the organisation of material, overpowering, blasting force in the world.

"I knew that the Socialism which had grown out of the teachings of Christian Socialists like Kingsley and Frederick Denison Morris, and afterwards heard through the voices of Keir Hardie and George Lansbury, had nothing in common with the teachings of the materialist philosophy to which we listened at those old international Socialist conferences.

"Yet we managed, and rightly managed, to find comradeship and to meet in a friendly way with those whose views were so materially different from our own."

He believed that it was not a materialist philosophy which would save the world, but Christ's teaching that we should do unto others what we would they should do unto us.

"I wish to introduce into this Debate a document which I, and I expect a great many other members have received from a little body of people whose influence in our midst has been very considerable—the Society of Friends. They say,

"The extension of conscription is one form of rearmament and war preparation; but it is the one that most invades the individual conscience and moulds a war mentality. We re-affirm our conviction that conscription is an evil thing that adds to the burden of suspicion in the world and is in danger of becoming accepted as inevitable in our national life.

"Evil will not cast out evil. Mankind must seek God's guidance in learning to overcome evil with good."

If we could devise a policy based less upon fear of what Communism was and more upon belief in the power of good to overcome evil we might even yet make progress in a world which was today so much given over to the forces of evil and violence.

Good for us—good for Russia

He had noticed that on two occasions in the Debate the Prime Minister had referred to the fact that a sound economic position was absolutely essential for defence and that economic strength and stability were the essential bases of all defence.

"If it be so for us, is it not so also for the Russians?" James Hudson asked. "Is it not one of the reasons why the Russians are doing so badly today; why they are so afraid of the world; why they must draw down the Iron Curtain that men may not discover the realities of the situations that exist there?

"Is not the reason for all that that they are placing all their trust in violence to the extent that they have drawn their man-

a pacifist just stand aside and let a bully maul a helpless person? Your Questions Answered, No. III.

—by Sybil Morrison.
DOES THE BIBLE APPROVE OF WAR?
Your Questions Answered, No. IV.

—by Stuart Morris.

THE ALTERNATIVE TO WAR —by Vera Brittain.

THE PEACE PLEDGE UNION
Introductory leaflet, giving the aims and views of the Peace Pledge Union, photographs of four outstanding sponsors, and information concerning its two regular publications, Peace News and the PPU Journal.

YOU CAN BREAK THE VICIOUS CIRCLE OF WAR
Leaflet dealing with the evils of "National Service" and the right of Conscientious Objection. Front-piece—photograph of Pietro Pinna, Italian CO.

—by Hugh Brock.

WILL YOU GO TO WAR AGAIN?
Leaflet issued by the London Area of the PPU and addressed to all "true citizens of London," with reply form attached.

NEED IT BE LIKE THIS?
The H-Bomb. "We Say No." With cartoons by Vicky, reproduced by permission of the News Chronicle.

SEND TO-DAY

One of each of the above leaflets, together with a complete list of moderately priced books and pamphlets on peace and related issues will be sent post free if you send your name and address and 1d. stamp to The Peace Pledge Union, Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsleigh Street, London, W.C.1. Large quantities, for distribution at meetings and rallies, free on request.

THE PEACE PLEDGE UNION
6, Endsleigh Street,
W.C.1

30,000 million dollars or 18 per cent. of the national income, and perhaps 30 or 40 per cent. of their budget—it is ridiculous small by comparison. We are told that there are 175 divisions in Russia, but we are not told whether they are very large divisions, fully equipped, highly mobile, of well-trained men of very high morale. I understand that the reverse is true.

"I have had only one slight experience of Russian intentions, when I ventured into Potsdam three years ago. The quality of the Russian troops I saw then was absolutely deplorable, and that was in the front line of Russia's sphere of influence for all to see.

"These divisions may be required to hold down countries which are under Russian suzerainty. Let it never be forgotten—and all praise to the policy pursued at the time—that Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt agreed to the division of Europe at the conference at Teheran. Once one puts soldiers upon a line, it is small wonder that the country behind them is converted according to the doctrine and beliefs, political and economic, of the country which has the major suzerainty.

"Russia, as I see it, has been following up her designs—dastardly and barbaric as they are—in the countries presented to her by the Treaty of Teheran, just as in our more mild and agreeable way we have been filling up the countries for which we are responsible with working capitalism and democracy.

If the House had confidence in itself and really saw the necessity of getting down, with the rest of the peoples of the world, to build an economic foundation both for themselves and for other people, we should be in a far better and safer position than that in which we are at present.

"Our greatest mistake is being made because we in the Labour Movement have managed to convince ourselves in the last 20 years that if only we make our armies strong enough that will be a deterrent that will keep us out of war. The Romans said, 'If you wish for peace prepare for war.' If there is one old slogan that has been proved to be a lie it is that one, for throughout all history those who have prepared for war have got war.

"This belief in the deterrent power of armaments is a mistaken belief, whether the arms are held in the hands of individual nations or whether they are held by a great composite authority such as the United Nations.

"All the attempts that the world has made through its long history to meet evil with evil has led to the growth of confusion, misery and tribulation."

CONSCRIPTION DEBATE

"GREAT ARMAMENTS LEAD INEVITABLY TO WAR"

Earl Grey, quoted by Victor Yates, MP

A N amendment to a National Service Bill increasing the period of conscription from 18 months to two years was moved by Rhys J. Davies, MP, in the House of Commons on Sept. 15.

The amendment, which was later withdrawn when an assurance was given on behalf of the Government that they did not intend to make conscription a permanent feature in this country, read:

"That this House regrets the introduction of a Bill, which curtails further the liberties of the subject, inflicts great hardships upon conscripts and expresses a determination that military conscription should not become a permanent feature of the British way of life."

It had been framed by the "No Conscription" group of pacifists and non-pacifist MPS.

In moving the amendment, Rhys J. Davies read only the first part of the intention of the amendment, which he very much regretted had been allowed to decline.

"It is assumed nowadays," he continued, "that if one disagrees with our Labour government he must be either a Communist or a fellow traveller. That is the unfortunate stage that we have reached.

I should like to inform the House that I have enormous respect for the Communist Party for years, when some who are now prominent Labour men were playing games with that party.

There was a time when the Soviets had support of 95 per cent. of the organised working classes of this country. They have nearly all of it. There was a time, when we would have declared a general strike at any suggestion of a war against Russia; but 95 per cent. of the organised working classes to day are critical if not hostile, to the Communists. That change of which the Kremlin ought to note.

Strange as it may seem, I learned most of my pacifism from a Russian—the late Leo Tolstoy, who by the way, preached peace under the tyranny of the Czar, and I wonder whether if he were here, he would get the same kind of welcome now under the Communist regime.

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That sea of failure: Lake Success
Having said that, may I say that this is to me a direct consequence of recent proceedings in that sea of failure ironically called Lake Success. Another fact is that fear of Russia that has brought this into existence.

I object to the extension of conscription of fear in the aeroplanes and real stable de
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Under the Military Training Act the age call-up was 21. See how the position has deteriorated. The age is now 17½, and I remind the House that there is nothing more eloquent against this Bill than the fact that the first British soldier killed Korea was a conscript of 19 years.

"Shame on all those who sent them to Korea, and shame on this House for allowing such a thing to happen.

We are told on the radio that they are sending peasant lads in Korea and sending them to the front line at the rate of 90 a day after only 15 days' training. They are just cannon fodder. I object in name of the human race against the leaders who do this sort of thing to young people.

We have troops in Austria, Gibraltar, Germany, Malaya, and now in Korea. This Bill is an attempt, of course, to meet these commitments.

the Egyptians came here
I do not know enough about foreign affairs to deal with these commitments, but have been in Egypt twice. We have 8000 troops in Egypt, and the Egyptians went to it.

Let me say in passing, that I do not like American soldiers in my country—I do not like to see any foreign troops on our soil.

"I asked a prominent Britisher one day, how would you like 30,000 Egyptian troops in London?" He said, "Oh, but we could not have that at all." Our troops are scattered all over the globe; it is just about time that we begin to mind our own business at home.

"In my view conscription is imposed by governments for the obvious reason that they refuse to shoulder arms voluntarily. They refuse because they have no faith to fight. Soldiers cannot be got in this generation at the rate they were recruited in the past. They are too near the last

When Mr. Churchill was silenced
The amendment was seconded by Mr. Victor Yates, (Lab. Birmingham, Ladywood), who reminded the House of an incident which occurred in 1912 when Winston Churchill, a Cabinet minister at that time,

willingness to compromise on the issue of conscription if he thought that National Service was not being made a permanent factor.

Wrongly assuming that Mr. Yates was a pacifist, Mr. Shackleton continued:

"When he does that, I feel that he abandons the pacifist point of view completely.

"One thing is certain: there can be no compromise in this pacifist position. For that reason, I would ask people who argue against an extension of National Service from the pacifist standpoint to stop using military arguments in support of their point of view. It has been done too often.

"To argue at one and the same time that the extension is morally wrong and also that it is militarily no good is in itself a destruction of the position to which they must firmly adhere if they are to justify their point of view.

"I appeal to hon. Members who are supporting this Amendment to think very clearly on the implications of what they are doing. I believe that unless they themselves are prepared to say they will submit to invasion, that they will submit to anything that will come throughout the world or in this country, they are not entitled from a pacifist standpoint to object to this extension.

"There is nothing un-Socialist in National Service," Mr. Shackleton continued.

"It is the custom, particularly among continental Socialists to regard National Service as the most democratic way of raising an army.

"The real objection is to the length of service. To take two years out of a man's life is bound to have a serious effect on his educational standards. We all know of the decline which followed in Germany when the Germans imposed two years' service; but there is no alternative at the moment... this Bill is absolutely necessary for the peace of the world.

"The State has not the right to conscript men to kill"

Fenner Brockway (Lab. Eton and Slough) said that although he was not a pacifist he would oppose the Bill because he would not impose duties on a young man which he himself had refused when he was young.

"I am not arguing as a pacifist, as I ceased to be a pacifist in 1936 because of my experiences in the Spanish Civil War. I am arguing today as a libertarian and I am putting the case that whilst the State has the right of many functions over the individual, the State has not the right of the function of conscripting men to duties which involve life and death.

"I am quite aware that in the National Service Acts of recent date provisions for those who have conscientious convictions on this matter have been greatly extended. I appreciate this, but even with these ex-

tended provisions, I acted during the last war at tribunals and court martials for men who were court-martialed five times and served five sentences before their conscientious convictions were admitted.

"I do not believe there is any method under a conscription Act by which these conscientious objections can be recognised completely. I have seen a man and represented him at his fifth court martial. I have seen that lonely individual.

"While I have expressed concern about that individual who could go through five tribunals and still maintain his attitude, my real sympathy is for the man who, by continual imprisonment, has his strength and self-respect broken, and whom the State succeeds in refusing the right to stand for his true convictions. That man loses his personality and his self-respect, and I have seen the psychological effect in after life.

"My argument to this House today is that although the State has great rights over the individual, that is a right which no State which claims to be libertarian should possess.

For a world that is not theirs

My second argument is this: These young men of 18 and 19 who are being conscripted have no responsibility for the world into which they have grown up.

"They have no voice in determining its foreign policy, no voice in determining its conditions, and they have no vote which can express their view; yet the State is taking the opportunity of saying to these young men, "You shall join the Army; you shall face the dangers of that life; you shall kill and be killed for a world which is not yours but which is the responsibility of those of us who are older and particularly the responsibility of Parliament and of the State."

"The older generation have no right to command these young men to join the Services to kill and be killed when they have had no responsibility for the conditions of the world in which they have grown up.

"In the last resort, in any democratic country, the decision to fight must be a decision which is accepted by the people. If the people accept that decision, then the people will volunteer to fight.

"If there is unwillingness to volunteer to fight, then the State and Parliament in a democratic community must recognise that, and must change its policies to express the will and the determination of the people.

"If one accepts that view and yet is driven into the position of saying that in certain circumstances one must conscript because people will not volunteer, one has slipped into the frame of mind of the totalitarians, and the Fascists and the Communists have won a mental and psychological victory.

Extracts from speeches made by R. W. Sorensen and other MPs during the Defence Debates will appear in Peace News next week.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Class-Z reservist

DURING the war I reached the pacifist standpoint, and I was then abroad where there was no provision made for advisory tribunals. I did my three months field punishment, after prolonged examination by psychiatrists, unit commanders, etc., to test the truth of my convictions, eventually finishing in a medical unit after five years in the infantry.

I appealed through my Member of Parliament for a transfer home, so that I could record my decision at an advisory tribunal. This was not granted, so that my present position would probably necessitate another three months or more punishment, despite having already served the requisite term.

Perhaps our pacifist MPs could agitate further for just regulations to meet such a case. I would be glad to hear from anyone similarly placed.

The farcical position, whereby a man of 25-35, just the age when he forms his beliefs—is denied access to tribunals because he has been in the armed forces previously (and in the case of the last war called up perhaps before voting age) badly needs correction, or pacifism may lose many potential adherents—for through personal experience, I can testify to the moral and physical strain involved in taking the pacifist decision while in the forces.

JACK A. EDWARDS

Heath Park,
Selkirk,
Scotland.

A mass uprising

C ORDER CATCHPOOL thinks that a mass uprising of the world's people against war may be the only means of saving this planet, and I feel inclined to agree,

since the majority of the world's leaders seem to have shed not only humanity and imagination, but plain, common sense with regard to the consequences of a third "do" with such weapons as are now being prepared.

Is there a possibility of that uprising? I am convinced there is.

NORAH SHONE

73 Edith Grove,
Chelsea.

"Excuse, please"

YOUR contributor on page two of Aug. 18 asks, "Who is the enemy?" We would say that most certainly the enemy is ignorance.

We do not imply that your contributor herself is unaware that there already exists the "world plan which we all can respect and in which all have their place." But we would say to those who do not know—and they are many—that the plan which fills her stated requirements is for the extension of the federal system of government to the States of the whole world.

Exactly how this will come about is still uncertain, whether through the People's World Convention or whether by the reform of UNO, or perhaps—since both these methods are being pursued in parallel—by a combination of the two, the present league becoming the Senate and the Convention producing a people's Chamber.

But that a world federation is certainly on the way now cannot be doubted; and the reason is that, as H. G. Wells saw when writing his "Outline of History" during World War I, it has urged it on the "... growing intelligence of mankind." It is inevitable. But that is only one more

reason why we must all understand about it.

THE FEDERALISTS

Dilaram,
Anacapri, Italy.

Day of prayer for peace

IT is good that the World Convention of Religions on the Foundations of Peace passed a resolution that leaders and followers of all faiths throughout the world should fix a day of universal prayer every year to promote World Peace. Perhaps the BBC will now begin to realise that it has been out of touch with progressive thought in consistently rejecting a request for a short broadcast on these lines.

This proposed that a day of prayer, or invocation, from the whole of the Commonwealth of Nations should be arranged; but as the Commonwealth contains adherents of practically all the major religions in the world, it would be a very useful first approach to the wider plan. The only difference is that the 'talk' includes the many people who cannot bring themselves to follow any religion, but whose thoughts could be a valuable asset in bringing the desired response.

Many British organisations and individuals have endorsed the project, as well as several Indian sources, and the article envisaging the proposal is going to be submitted again to the BBC Director of Talks—the fifth attempt since early 1946.

Any suggestion how to encourage the BBC to extend its horizon sufficiently to include the Commonwealth of Nations as an organic whole will be welcome.

OLIVE MURPHY
Oak House, 4a The Ridgeway,
Golders Green, N.W.11.
(Continued on next page)

Stop Nagging!

URGING the nations to stop nagging at each other—a habit that can lead only to mutual destruction—"Harijan" quotes a saying of its founder, Mahatma Gandhi:

"If you want to convert your opponent you must present to him his better and nobler side. Work on, round, upon that side. Do not dangle his faults before him."

The continual dangling by one nation of another nation's faults before the whole world is the surest way to produce dissension, and finally war, says this paper. The golden rule for individuals should also hold good for nations, and working on the better side of an individual or a nation did not mean shutting one's eyes to the dangers. "On the contrary, it means that instead of feverishly concentrating on the bad side only, one quietly and honestly opens one's eyes to the whole situation, with all its possibilities, both dangerous and hopeful."

Grand Alliance

THIS sentiment is echoed in the Western hemisphere by the Rev. Edis Fairbairn of Ontario, writing on the possibility of a Third World War.

If it comes, he says, the nations together will have created its inevitability by believing in war, and in nothing else, and by threatening and preparing for war. The minority opinion that war is futile and wicked would make little headway when both the "Christian" and the Communist nations were united in their belief that war "belongs to the nature of things," and were deliberately preparing for the next one.

Hope for Africa

THE hope that Africa might solve its racial problems by non-violence is expressed in a speech quoted in the South African "Indian Opinion."

Shri Kalekar spoke of the plan for a Gandhi Memorial Museum in Delhi and a Memorial College in East Africa where Africans, Indians and Europeans could work together. Africa, with its differing races, might become a monument to the Mahatma's teachings that had been evolved there. African students, he said, were eager to learn from India and many had already been accepted in Indian colleges.

But The Observer on Sept 10 reported that the South African Government has banned the issue of passports to African students who have won scholarships to Indian universities.

Old Wounds—

ANTI-BRITISH feeling is still strong in Nigeria, writes a correspondent, in spite of the findings (favourable to the British administration) of the Commission on the Enugu colliery shootings last November.

A national day of mourning on July 4 was marked by special "Mourning Editions" of Nigerian newspapers. A procession of mourners in Lagos, arranged by the National Church of Nigeria, was banned by the police.

And the Remedy

THE Manchester Guardian recently quoted an example of the good effects of a more enlightened policy.

Trouble at the university college of Ibadan was averted by the wise action of its Principal in inviting a deputation from the National Emergency Committee (Nigerian nationalists) to discuss grievances. The meeting was cordial and both parties revealed a genuine concern for the future of the college. Treated as equals and as responsible citizens, these men—regarded by the British community as a body of "dangerous and irresponsible revolutionaries"—showed themselves ready to appreciate the other point of view and to use their influence constructively.

One hopes, says the Guardian, that the moral will not be lost on those who "find it difficult to treat an African politician as they would a Frenchman or a Canadian."

PACIFIST PARADE

Crackpots

THAT all political parties are in the long run (perhaps even in the short run!) worthless, is the sad reflection of Miss Ethel Mannin—describing herself as a "pacifist-anarchist"—in a letter to the Socialist Leader on Sept. 9.

Replying to the editorial on "Crackpot Pacifism" (discussed in PN, Aug. 18) she accuses the ILP of wooliness and shilly-shallyness. To say that Dr. Soper's religion was irrelevant to his pacifism was merely being stupid—"because Dr. Soper's pacifism springs from his Christianity; he is one of the few professing Christians who takes his religion sufficiently seriously to appreciate that when the Founder of it commanded us to love our enemies . . . he didn't mean atomise them or otherwise destroy them, or co-operate in doing so." To call this attitude "crackpot" she says, "makes me despair of the ILP."

Sowing and Reaping

A SUBSIDIARY organisation of the United Nations Association that continues to do useful work for young people is the Council for Education in World Citizenship.

Seven harvest camps have been held in various places in Britain this summer, to all of which young visitors from overseas were invited. As well as producing food, they have also been discussing it under the general theme of "Food and People." A conference on "Government," held at Norwich during August, was attended by 40 British school-children and 60 others drawn from France, Italy, Germany, Belgium and the USA; another conference in Westmorland last month discussed "Aid to Backward Territories."

The Best Defence

OTHER camps with the specific aim of working for peace, have been organised by the Association of International Work Camps for Peace in Germany, Finland, Belgium, Switzerland, India, America and Jamaica.

The importance of international work camps in the present world situation is stressed in the Association's International News No. 76.

"A new world war," it says, "would not only undo what has been done in the way of material reconstruction; it would strike at the very roots of everything the movement stands for."

Work camps needed peace to develop their activities; and peace needed to be defended by such efforts.

A post-camp gathering of volunteers was held near Paris last week to discuss the question of "Work Camps and Peace."

Greek Prisoners

THE League for Democracy in Greece last month cabled an appeal to General Plastiras—the Prime Minister of Greece—on behalf of the 600 women and children interned on the island of Makronisos.

"In the name of womanhood and humanity," says the statement, "we earnestly urge you immediately to release these women—against whom no charge has been made—to resume their housekeeping, the care of their children and their work." It was signed by 23 distinguished public women, including Lady Trevelyan; Dame Elizabeth Cadbury; Dame Sybil Thorndike; Ethel Mannin; Dr. Dorothy Needham; and Prof. Kathleen Lonsdale.

It remains to be seen whether the recent change of government in Greece will also bring a change of heart.

Cry Havoc!

A VIOLATION of the United Nations charter that is not likely to be discussed by the Security Council is the reported claim of the Tribal Council of the Navajo Indians and other American Indians that the UN is trespassing on Indian territory—and not even representing the Indians.

The Indians are also claiming compensation for land invaded and stolen by the United States, and have suggested a U.S. withdrawal to the 50th parallel in the North and the 30th parallel in the South, and a UN commission to investigate this "aggression."

Sleeping dogs may after all be found preferable to the dogs of war—as domestic pets.

MARGARET TIMS

Extracts from

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SELF DETERMINATION

BISHOP BARNEs says we cannot defend ourselves by approving methods of mass-murder and mass-mutilation. It could further be said that we are not protecting ourselves from the cruel bombing and mass-murder of women and children at the other end of the earth.

As thinkers and the subtler statesmen know, the dominant factor in the next war will be that of atomic power. No, not the atom bomb; but the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Western Democracy needs strict control of the application of atomic energy in industrial and economic channels to prevent the collapse of the capitalistic fabric. The Eastern World is not like minded. We seem to have harnessed God to our cause. Let us rather harness our cause to God.

A. D. HUNTER

28 The Grove,
London, W.5.

BETRAYAL OF SOCIALISM

PERHAPS this is an auspicious anniversary on which to discuss the preparations which are taking place for the "third world war to end war."

Already the vultures are at work and beginning to reap enormous profits from the preparations for war. The wool sales in Australia are a despicable example of the readiness to trade in human lives displayed by the "free world."

A man's utility suit will cost, as a result of the steep increase in prices due to large and pending orders for uniforms, £3 to £4 more (Daily Telegraph, Aug. 31). Already foodstuffs are increasing because the Government is more willing to pour money away on destruction than it is to aid the poorer sections of the population.

Will the pacifist MPs put their convictions first when Parliament reassembles, or will they passively object to, but vote for, the measures announced by the Prime Minister?

It is obvious that the Government is, by its association with the rabidly capitalist USA following a path that can only lead to the betrayal of socialism, and may lead to the extinction of huge populations and the total devastation of Europe.

JOHN PILKINGTON

The Chalet,
Luythorn Hill, Street, Som.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

NOW we see the newspapers doing their bit to aid the world hysteria and anxiety neurosis. Since there must be a scapegoat, this time it is to be Communism and peace, and with many protestations of anti-warlike aims all sides duly prepare the world for slaughter.

A few years ago Russia was the saviour of man, and Germany the villain, but now we go a begging to the villain to save us from the saviour. Such is the moral corruptness of this criminal philosophy.

Meanwhile humanity is jailed and ridiculed, cities are laid waste by the professing civilised, and the cry is "More guns, more cannon fodder, more blood," or in effect "Crucify Him, Crucify Him."

So in due course an outworn system ends, amid misery. As the Master said: "You can see the signs of the weather, but you cannot read the signs of the times."

A. S. HOUSMAN

22 Broad Lane,
Formby,
Liverpool.

THE ORDINARY PERSON

IF men and women refused to fight all over the world no war could be fought (unless the leaders of men and nationalist scientists had private wars of their own).

This sounds an impossible proposition, and it is, in face of the world situation today. That a handful of individuals can hope to counteract the immense might of the nations power to mould people's minds, using the press, radio, and cinema, seems an incredible and formidable task.

But someone has to oppose this enemy to clear thinking. Someone has to make the way clear so that different nations can understand our (the war resisters) position. Gradual as the process may be, the task of breaking through this imposed hatred mongering has to be done.

This letter, coming from an ordinary person, will probably not make a dent in world affairs, yet imagine a few million letter writers of similar minds, all ordinary persons. The influence would be considerable, enough to deter would-be war makers to think a little before acting.

For the world is made up largely of ordinary persons whose desire is to live peacefully with one another.

JACK GRAHAM

15 Capel Road,
East Barnet.

BANNING THE BOMB

THE atom bomb will be banned eventually. I am not a Communist but I am sure of that. World opinion cannot be for ever ignored.

When agreement has been reached on this issue the way will lie open for the solution of other problems threatening Peace. This is the significance of the Stockholm Appeal.

RON MONTAGUE

The peril from atomic bombs has aroused World Opinion and the much discussed Petition calling for them to be banned is one of many manifestations of this.

In my view the sooner all such manifestations are supported wholeheartedly the sooner Peace will come.

RON MONTAGUE

28 Warren Road,
Wanstead, E.11.

FROM AN OAP

I VOLUNTEERED in 1915 in "the war to end war." In 1940, because my views had changed and they did no coincide with the Governments, I was secretly interrogated and asked if I wished to be a martyr.

During the war I preached peace in pulpits of this town, and distributed that last speech given in the House of Commons by Dr. A. Salter, and read it verbatim in the pulpits (thanks to PN for its publication) and that was my reaction to being secretly interviewed.

I have served the Methodist cause for 50 years and am still serving. I have criticised the Methodist Recorder many many times, but none of my letters have been published. I shall however continue to protest against any views they express which I do not approve of.

I have written to the Childrens News paper twice about an advert in regard to the R.A.F. and recruits, and on the last occasion I told them I had cancelled the paper after being a reader for 30 years. So now as an Old Age Pensioner I am trying to do my bit for propagating peace.

THOS. A. WHITAKER

66 Oak Avenue,
Todmorden,
Lancs.

ONE STEP

MAY I please disagree with Sybil Morrison's views on the Petition for banning the A-bomb.

The A-bomb is not merely "an extension of obliteration bombing" but a means of annihilation incomparably more complete. Not only that, but vital centres of civilised life would be uninhabitable for years to come. For Britain the bomb brings close the possibility of extinction.

Why should the attempt to ban the bomb be futile? It does not necessarily follow that those millions who support the petition "believe it would save them from war," but like myself have done so as being one step against it.

It is important to consider that the banding together of such a large number of people in a common aim, creates a moral force against the war psychology. The focussing of attention on the Bomb, often leads to the view that all weapons, and even war itself, is wrong. This is surely of great value to the pacifist cause?

Finally it is not reasonable for pacifists to take an "uncompromising stand" for the absolutist pacifist position. Those who support the prohibition of even the smallest item of war material, for whatever motive, are helping the cause of peace, and are, therefore, our allies; and if we spurn their advice, however small and feeble, we have done that much against the cause we believe in.

DON L PHILLIPS

Pensilva,
69 Audley Avenue,
Torquay.

QUESTION ALL MOTHERS ASK

AS a mother, I read with great interest that the one question the women and mothers of Britain want answered about the rearmament programme is: "Will it prevent war?" (Daily Mirror, Sept. 8).

I would earnestly appeal to all women, particularly mothers, to re-call or re-read some of the history of the nations. From this I think they could only come to the conclusion that "rearmament" or "more armaments" have never yet prevented war; also that no war has yet ended war, but is usually followed by an uneasy peace.

We have had wars for 2,000 years (and more). Each war now piles up a huge sum to an already staggering National Debt, and puts a little more burden on the backs of Mr. and Mrs. Citizen.

As women add up their own accounts they might ponder on the amount paid annually to MPs, etc. One of the things we have a right to expect in return for such payments is that Statesmen find some better way of settling international disputes than by war, if all mothers insisted on this, we might get it done!

A government or cabinet of mothers would do a lot to achieve a more settled and peaceful world. For only a mother knows what it costs to see her son and daughter go off to war; knows what it is to live continually under the threat of yet another war and all that it means to her children; to suffer continually from anxiety and heartache for her children's uncertain future.

Yes! It's time mothers asked questions: time they had a respite—and a hope of real peace for their children!

ETHEL LEWIS

The Manse,
Brill, Aylesbury.

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More facts about Korea

The Korean Crisis, Sydney B. Bailey. (National Peace Council, 1s. 6d.)

THIS is an attempt to put into manageable form all the evidence there is about the events leading up to the fighting in Korea. It was written at the request of the National Peace Council's Commission on East-West Relations.

The pamphlet gives a brief account of early history of Korea and goes on to detail more in detail with the events during Japanese occupation and since the end of the war.

The pamphlet is scrupulously objective, author expressing no personal views on controversial issues involved and drawing no inferences, though often the facts themselves draw their own inferences.

More than half the pamphlet consists of appendices in which all the relevant communiques, resolutions and reports from the Cairo Conference onwards are printed without comment. One reads what the Allies' declared intentions about Korea were, what the United Nations found out through its Commissions and decided in its councils, what the Koreans themselves have said inasmuch as they have had opportunity to do so, and what exactly, in the more final stages, has been said by President Truman, Mr. Gromyko, Mr. Attlee and Pandit Nehru.

It is an immensely useful reference work for those who, in the heat and excitement of recent weeks, have tended to forget exactly what went before—and how many haven't? All who are seriously concerned about Korea and would like to find a practical way now of stopping the fighting and getting a sound settlement have a duty to buy a copy and keep it handy.

Out of the pages, despite the author's calm objectivity, question marks come galloping on their own account. This is not the place to try to answer them. Don't breathe another word about Korea until you have read this essential document. Well-worth your one-and-sixpence.

DOUGLAS ROGERS

Independence without bloodshed

THE cold war has shifted from Europe to the East. At a time when all peace lovers are anxiously watching the events in Korea and other parts of Asia, such a publication as the Asian Horizon (Quarterly, 3s. 6d.) deserves attention. With an editorial board of experts, most of them natives of Asia, this quarterly magazine presents factual and objective background material essential for the better understanding of the present developments that troubled part of the world. The Spring issue contained a Ceylon supplement and was well illustrated with good pictures. The story of Ceylon should be of special interest to all those who believe in non-violence. It is the story of a colonial country which has gained political independence without bloodshed, an achievement worthy of emulation by other subjected peoples aspiring to freedom.

MOHAMED SOPIEE

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PHILLIPS

Notes for your Diary

Monday, September 25

TOWER HILL: 1 p.m. Speakers: Jack Sutherland and Gwyneth Anderson. PPU.
BIRKBEAD: 7.30 p.m. Friends' Meeting House, Park Rd. South; Public Meeting: Stanley C. Farrar (Secretary, Northern Friends' Peace Board); A Christian Says "No" to War. Why?

Wednesday, September 27

LONDON, W.C.1: 7.30 p.m. 8 Endsleigh St.; Gramophone recital; Offers help to S. N. Adams, 24 Primrose Lane, London, N.1; Refreshments provided; No PPU.

Saturday, September 23

LEEDS: 7 p.m. At Will Groen's, 14 Endleigh St., Off Chapelton Rd.; Jumble sale; Open-air meeting; Sybil Morrison; PPU.

LONDON, W.C.1: 7.30 p.m. 8 Endsleigh St.; Gramophone recital; Offers help to S. N. Adams, 24 Primrose Lane, London, N.1; Refreshments provided; No PPU.

Sunday, September 24

LONDON, S.W.1: 3 p.m. Westminster Abbey: Archdeacon Hartill preaches at Friends' Meeting House, Euston Rd.; Meeting of Christian Witness against War.

LONDON, W.C.1: 7.30 p.m. 8 Endsleigh Gardens; "Down Under" by Roger Page; Central London PPU.

Saturday, September 30

LONDON, W.C.1: 2.30 p.m. Dick Sheppard House 6 Endsleigh St.; Bernard Boothroyd on "The Outlook for Religious Pacifism"; Religious Commission of the PPU.

HIGH WYCOMBE: 3.15 p.m. Friends' Meeting House, London Rd.; Area meeting followed by an address from Dr. Hilda von Klenze; Refreshment provided; PPU.

LONDON, N.W.1: 2.30-7.30 p.m. Friends' House, Euston Rd.; Half-day Conference: "Peace Making through Education"; Education Commission PPU; Tea Tickets £1. 8d. from J. Burgess, 8 West St., Hertford.

LEICESTER: Friends' Meeting House; Speaker: Archdeacon Hartill; Area Conference; P.P.U.

STOKE: 4 p.m. Church Institute; Speaker: Percy W. Bartlett; Area Conference; P.P.U.

WORTHING: 4 p.m. Methodist Church, Tarring Rd.; Speaker: Rev. Lewis MacLachlan; Area Conference; P.P.U.

FINSBURY PARK: 2.30 p.m. "Pence News" Office, 3 Blackstock Rd., N.4; First Mass Door-to-door distribution of 10,000 PPU Civil Defence leaflets; Helpers urgently required; Islington Peace Group Council.

Sunday, October 1

DORKING: 3 p.m. The Shippens, Pilgrims Way, Westhumble (near Box Hill); Speaker: Vera Brittain; Surrey Area PPU.

HUDDERSFIELD: One day school: Wilfred Waller; Afternoon and evening sessions; Full details later; PPU.

FINSBURY PARK: 11 a.m. Open-air meeting; North London Region, PPU.

HYDE PARK: 7 p.m. Open-air meeting; PPU.

GLASGOW: 7 p.m. Brunswick Street, Open-air meeting. PPU.

Wednesday, October 4

DERBYSHIRE HILLS: Vegetarian Guest House. Rest and comfort amid beautiful scenery. Arthur and Catherine Ludlow, The Briars, Crich, Near Matlock. Tel: Ambergate 44.

THURSDAY, October 5

LONDON, W.C.2: 12.30 p.m. Lincoln's Inn Fields; Open-air Meeting: Sybil Morrison; PPU.

FRIDAY, October 6

LONDON, W.C.1: 1.30-1.45. St. Martin-in-the-Fields; Intercession Service for Peace; The Rev. Alan Balding, APF, F.O.R., PPU.

ST. ALBANS: 8.00 p.m. Friends' Meeting House, Upper Lattimore Rd.; Rev. Claud Colman: "The Church and Modern War"; For.

SATURDAY, October 7

NOTTINGHAM: 3 p.m. Adult School Room, Friar Lane; Rev. D. Penry Jones on "Pacifism, the Way"; Secretary: Mrs. D. Brown, Hibbery, Tythbury Rd., Bingham, Notts; Arts Conference F.O.R.

ST. ALBANS: 6.30 p.m. Friends' Meeting House; Speaker: Rev. W. H. Foley; Arts Conference; F.O.R.

SHEFFIELD: 3 p.m. 22 Newbold Lane, Sheffield; One day school on non-violence; Speaker: Kathleen Rawlins on "The Teachers of Non-Violence"; 5 p.m. Tea:

6 p.m. Non-violence and Ourselves"; Particulars from Eleanor A. Pease, 28 East Bank Place, Sheffield 2.

MONDAY, October 9

ST. ALBANS: 7.45 p.m. Town Hall; Ritchie Calder, F. le Gros Clarke; "Food and Peace"; Public Meeting arranged jointly by PPU, U.N.A., Trade Council.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

A CHRISTIAN pacifist meeting was held on Aug. 18 in one of the few undamaged halls in Western Berlin.

The speaker was John Nevin Sayre, Chairman of the American Fellowship of Reconciliation. Muriel Lester who had previously spoken to a gathering at Spiegelz was also present. Mr. Sayre spoke and answered questions for over two-and-a-half hours; his inspiring message for peace was followed by the audience with interest and warmly applauded.

Sponsored by a Berlin Borough Mayor, Herr Kressman, an open air meeting for peace is to be held in one of the Berlin parks. The speakers are a Jewish pastor, a Catholic priest, and a Protestant clergyman.

Trygve Lie has stated that the UN would totally evacuate its present headquarters in a section of the Sperry Gyroscope Company by the end of 1951. The premises would be turned over to war production of radar equipment and aircraft bomb-sights.

Food parcels may now be sent abroad up to £10 value and 22 pounds weight. They may contain other items besides food, but not more than one pound of coffee, two pounds of tea and two pounds of sugar.

Not more than one parcel may be sent each month by any donor to the same recipient.

In a broadcast to the nation on India's Independence Day, the President, Rajendra Prasad, made an appeal to the Indian people to hold more firmly than ever to the moral values which the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi had placed before them: "The ideal of the world above self, service above gratification, love above violence and creation above destruction."

The Salvation Army International Youth Congress, just concluded, declared that the individual should be guided by his own conscience. Delegates stated: "Political parties that exclude God cannot create a better world."

China is listed among the 48 nations "backing up UN action in Korea" in a leaflet recently issued by the British United Nations Association. The leaflet claims to give the "real facts."

Mr. Herbert Less, chief of the Prague office of the Co-operative for American Remittances to Europe, has left that office to go over to the Eastern sector.

September 22, 1950, PEACE NEWS—7

Up and doing!

THE LOCAL PRESS

Reading his local weekly, H.F. of Loughton, spotted a letter from the UNA Press secretary. A few minutes sufficed to write a friendly note about pacifism and Peace News, and send a specimen copy.

Result? A grateful visitor ordering seven PN every week, promising to recommend it to all his members, and taking away a good quantity of pacifist literature—and leaving a greatly encouraged H.F!

Make sure to watch your local paper. It's usually an open forum where pacifism may be discussed and many valuable contacts made.

H.F.M.

Circulation last week 10,500

An exhibition of the work of John Olday, the British artist and worker in the German anti-Nazi underground movement, has been opened at his private studio, 28a Tavistock Road, W.2.

AND NO PURCHASE TAX?

WE distinctly remember during the late old-fashioned war being stirred into a maddening calm in the columns of this journal by somebody's notion that pacifists were people who wanted Peace At Any Price.

We pointed out, we recall, with irrefragable logic, that Peace was a commodity not to be had at Any Price; that the price of peace was, in fact, strictly controlled and displayed for all to see; and that the attempt to buy it in the wrong market and with a debased currency would end in the purchaser's obtaining not peace, but the shoddy substitute of military victory.

Our kindly warning was ignored, but it is not our intention to sharpen the customers' disillusion by holding that against them. We mention the matter merely to direct attention to a New Economic Theory which makes our ideas about the price of peace as out-of-date as the belief that if you don't fight you can't be defeated.

So revolutionary is this theory that the pacifist movement is in grave danger of having to shut up shop. If we are not very careful, the market in Peace is going to be cornered—by an American, of course. In fact, by the U.S. Secretary for the Navy, who probably went to school and so knows much more about economics than we do.

This gentleman proclaimed the other week: "To have peace, we should be willing, and declare our intention, to pay any price—even the price of instituting a war—to compel co-operation for peace . . ."

This statement, which shocked Lord Samuel, who quoted it in the Lords' Defence Debate, should give pacifists much reason for nail-biting. If trade and finance follow the flagship, we shall soon

have Wall Street museling in, and the price of peace will soar well out of the reach of the sterling area.

Pacifists have always been accused of wanting peace at any price when in fact, fainthearts that they are, they have never been prepared to go beyond what is possible and necessary to obtain it. Now along come the militarists really prepared to pay any price for peace, even the price of destroying it.

Pacifists have never dared to go as high as that. If Peace were put up for auction today, the militarists would outbid the pacifists all along the line. We ought to be thoroughly ashamed of ourselves.

But the main interest of this pronouncement lies in the entirely new form of purchase that it envisages. If the idea is generally adopted it will mean that henceforth the condition of obtaining an article in a shop will not be, as hitherto, the handing over of a certain sum of money, but the smashing of the article one wants to buy, preferably over the shopkeeper's head.

Imagine, for instance, a young man buying his girl friend a bottle of perfume for a birthday present. He marches into the shop, selects the smell, dashes the bottle against the special bottle-smasher provided, and rushes to meet his beloved. "Darling," he cries, "I've just bought you the dinkiest bottle of 'Evening-in-Wigan.' They're still sweeping up the pieces. Many happy returns."

The snag, as we see it, in this form of transaction is that the bill may be sent along later. For "the price of instituting a war" is as nothing to the price of keeping it going and cleaning up the mess afterwards.

But such an objection is niggling when compared with the breadth and vision of

the U.S. Secretary for the Navy's speech. He made it clear that he expected that America's action in starting a war for purely peaceful purposes would be wilfully misunderstood and misrepresented—"They (i.e. the suspicious sourpusses in the Kremlin—C.H.) would brand our programme as imperialist aggression."

We feel sure that even the Muscovite hordes would not carry sourpussery as far as that. But the Secretary for the Navy is ready for moral martyrdom in the cause of peace. He went on:

"We could accept that slander with complacency, for the implementation of a strong peace-seeking policy, though it cast us in a character new to true democracy—the initiator of a war of aggression—would win for us a proud and popular title; we would become the first aggressor for peace."

Them's honest words, son, and spoken like a true pioneer. The speaker should, however, remember that new characters fit more comfortably the longer they are worn, and that victory transmutes all aggressors, even aggressors for peace, into defenders. Or into troglodytes. Let him therefore be comforted, and get down to business.

Viscount Samuel seemed to think, for some reason, that this speech would cause justifiable alarm in Moscow. For our part we are certain that Mr. Stalin and his friends will not be so small-minded. They know that in the purchase of peace, at any price, even the price of war, there must be some overheads.

And if the overheads happen to be American atom bombers, over Moscow, well, that's just progress, ain't it?

CYRIL HUGHES

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

LATEST TIME for copy: Monday before publication.

TERMS: Cash with order, 8d. per word minimum 2s. 6d. (Box No. 6d. extra). Please don't send stamps in payment except for odd pence. Maximum length: 50 words. Address for Box No. replies: Peace News, 3 Blackstock Road, N.4.

When corresponding with PN about an advertisement, quote its first words, classification, and date.

We reserve the right to hold over advertisements and to limit the frequency of continuing advertisements

MEETINGS

WEIGH HOUSE Church, Duke Street, W.I. (Bond St. Tube), Sunday evenings at 7. The Gospel of Peace! Social hour follows.

ACCOMMODATION

DERBYSHIRE HILLS, Vegetarian Guest House. Rest and comfort amid beautiful scenery. Arthur and Catherine Ludlow, The Briars, Crich, Near Matlock. Tel: Ambergate 44.

YOUNG SCULPTOR and wife require unfurnished flat in London district. Willing to pay about £50 for fittings, or premium. 72 Stormont Rd., S.W.11.

PERSONAL

MARRIAGE BUREAU offers unrivalled personal service. Nation-wide clientele. Mary Blair (Room 59), 147 Holborn, E.C.1.

LITERATURE &c.

QUAKERISM Information and Literature respecting the Faith and Practice of the Religious Society of Friends, free on application to the Friends' Home Service Committee, Friends' House, Euston Rd., London.

EDUCATIONAL

Peace Centre opens to-morrow

EVERY pacifist in London tomorrow (Saturday) is invited to the inaugural ceremony, at Hollo-way Friends Meeting House, 404 Camden Road, N.7, of the North London Peace Centre, a meeting place at which all pacifists will be able to gather at all times.

The centre which will be at 3 Blackstock-road, N.4, will be declared open by the president, and editor of Peace News, Bernard Boothroyd. Other speakers will include Rev. Patrick Figgis and Rev. Lewis MacLachlan, Editor of Reconciliation.

The ceremony, beginning at 4 p.m., will be preceded at 2.30 p.m. by a garden party. Entrance is one shilling; children accompanying adults, will be admitted free and arrangements made for their entertainment during the opening.

Although it is deemed necessary that the administration of the centre be placed in the hands of members of specifically pacifist organisations, it is emphasised that the facilities offered are open to all. The founders are anxious to ensure the centre stands for the construction of peace and the opposition of all war.

To forward the cause of peace

The object in the formation of this centre, is to bring together, in informal surroundings, all thinking and peace-loving people, and from these meetings, perhaps, to arrange activities that will forward the cause of peace in others. The form of these activities is not yet settled; but will depend entirely upon the support given to the centre and the enthusiasm of its members. The centre will in no way supersede existing groups.

In a letter, announcing the inaugural ceremony, Allan Jackson, honorary secretary of the centre, writes: "All interested persons and societies in North London are to be notified, and it is hoped that in due course the centre will canalise the will towards peace which is known to exist but which so often seems to be unexpressed.

"Thus through the centre individuals will be introduced to organisations and local groups will be stimulated by the opportunity of joint effort."

The aims of the centre, as listed in the constitution, are: to establish a social centre and meeting place; to promote training facilities for speakers and group officers; to establish a centre in North London for peace propaganda.

PEACE NEWS announce the 1950
ENDSLEIGH

Christmas Cards

An attractive and colourful selection varied to suit all tastes and ages

1. International card in three colours; greetings in French, German, Russian, Esperanto and English
Large double card with verse Price 4d.
2. Child study, photographed by Michael Petro
Large double card with verse ...Price 5d.
3. James Naylor peace quotation in illuminated lettering, two colours
Large double card in deckled vellum Price 5d.
4. Cartoon by Arthur Bayntun, in green
Large double card Price 4d.
5. Three charming floral designs—"Holly," "Snowdrops" and "Christmas Rose"; four colours
Double cards Price 4d.
6. Two International children's cards, two colours and halftones
Single cards Price 2d.
7. Father Christmas selling Peace News!
Large double card, two colours Price 2d.

In addition we introduce—

Endsleigh Painting Cards

A set of six Nativity and traditional Christmas scenes drawn in outline on large double cards, for colouring with paints or crayons.

Children, parents, teachers and Sunday School workers will welcome this attractive innovation.

A PACKET OF SIX 1/9 WITH ENVELOPES

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DISCOUNTS FOR BAZAARS, SHOPS, GROUPS, ETC.

Send now for

Ten samples (incl. Painting Card) and particulars

PRICE 3s. POST PAID

ENDSLEIGH CARDS

(All profits to Pacifist work)

3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4



"WORLD AID, NOT WORLD WAR"

A VIGOROUS initiative against the present trend to a new world war is coming from a group of people drawn from different Christian denominations.

This movement began with a crowded meeting to discuss "Christ and Korea" at the Weigh House Church soon after fighting had begun in Korea.

Following that meeting a considerable group of people from among those present have met regularly to plan further action. The group has now issued a telling statement, which, while it clearly marks off the group from any Communist-inspired activity, nevertheless calls for a new approach to Russia. They declare:

"The true path of peace is to use the resources of the nations to raise the standard of life of the people everywhere, especially in the backward countries. If all the treasure poured out so lavishly to provide men and arms . . . were to be employed in helping other less fortunate humans towards a better way of living, the fear of being victimised by some aggressor would vanish."

The group therefore urges that the aid of Russia should be sought in a co-operative job of giving assistance to backward countries.

"Wars are not made by the deliberate will of the common people," says the statement, "they are thrust upon the people by the inability of their rulers to agree."

A number of meetings are in contemplation in order to express the people's desire that a new attempt on these lines shall be made to reach agreement in order to avert world catastrophe.

The meeting in Friends House advertised below should be made as widely known as possible, particularly among the members of the various Christian congregations.

Young federalists reject world army

From DAVID J. WEBSTER

A RESOLUTION calling for the establishment of a permanent world army was heavily defeated at the Fourth World Congress of World Student Federalists held at Folkestone recently.

More than ever before the proceedings were overshadowed by the current world political situation and the Congress was notable for a number of policy statements dealing with some of the major political issues of the day.

Amongst the other major political decisions were resolutions welcoming Pandit Nehru's attempts to lessen the East-West struggle in Asia and calling for the inclusion of the People's Republic of China in the Security Council in place of Nationalist China. A motion advocating a federation of the non-Communist world was defeated.

As well as resolutions condemning colonialism, economic imperialism, "apartheid" policy of the South African Government, Capricorn federation and racial discrimination, there was a motion passed encouraging world-wide disarmament, including conventional armaments and military conscription as well as weapons of mass destruction, with the rejoinder that there must be effective control.

It was stated that the organisation deplored all international unification projects based upon defensive military alliances and dominated by one power; and that they were convinced that no true federal union could be based upon such a limited and negative concept.

Headquarters of the movement are at 18 rue Vignon, Paris IX.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

HASTINGS: A packed audience of nearly 300 people listened with rapt attention when Pastor Ronald Brown of Chicago, USA, spoke at the White Rock Pavilion on Sept. 9 on world problems and their solution.

Pastor Brown is well known in this country through the book "Recovery," describing his successes in the healing of "incurables" and the solving of human problems through the power of Divine Love.

In his address, Pastor Brown described the sense of shock which he and other Americans suffered in a recent tour of devastated Germany.

He asked his audience to take up the

challenge of putting the teachings of Christ—all of them, not just a few, specially picked out for convenience—into actual practice in every aspect of their lives; to pray for their enemies and endeavour to feel love for them instead of hate.

SHEFFIELD: The PPU Group are holding a One Day School on Non-Violence at the house of Mr. and Mrs. Stuart, 22 Newbold Lane, Sheffield 10, on Saturday, Oct. 7.

Speaker Kathleen Rawlins. 3 p.m. "The Teachers of Non-Violence." 5 p.m. Tea.

6 p.m. "Non-Violence and Ourselves."

For particulars and hospitality apply to Eleanor A. Pease, 28 East Bank Place, Sheffield 2.

PLYMOUTH: A Devon and Cornwall Peace Council is in process of formation to strengthen pacifist activities in the two counties. The three Monthly Meetings of the Society of Friends, three Area Councils of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, the Devon and Cornwall Area Council of the Peace Pledge Union, and the S.W. Divisional Council of the Independent Labour Party are among the organisations co-operating, writes F. C. Denner, of 2 Guildford Street, Plymouth, Devon.

CHELMSFORD: The General Committee of the Labour Party carried, with only one vote against, a resolution from the Labour Pacifist Fellowship calling for steps to end the fighting in Korea.

AYLESBURY: "Is that more important than guns?" was the question asked by the Chairman of the Aylesbury Divisional Executive when they were asked to recommend expenditure on a school playground. Ethel Lewis of Aylesbury PPU Group has written the Bucks Advertiser expressing public gratitude to the Chairman for pointing out where their money is going. "There was a day when the British people were horrified at Germany's edict 'Guns before butter,'" she added.

CAN YOU HELP . . . ?

A small band of North London pacifists in a door-to-door canvass with the PPU Korea petition in the King's Cross area. Offers for any evening to Rose Chilver, 18 Medhurst Road, E.3.

Stoke Newington Peace Group who this week-end are attempting to cover most of the Borough with the PPU Civil Defence leaflet before a CD meeting on Monday. Please contact Eileen Brock, 79 Lordship Park N.16. (Sta 5237).

With Peace News selling at Lincoln's Inn on Thursdays at 1 p.m. and on Sunday afternoons and evenings at Marble Arch. Names please to Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsleigh Street, W.C.1. (Eus 5501).

Peace News office in obtaining copies of the Aug. 11 issue which was completely sold out. Returned copies in unsealed envelope to 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4, please.

Islington Peace Group to deliver 10,000 Civil Defence leaflets on Sept. 30 (See Diary, page 7).

The Ex-servicemen's Anti-War Group to get their five-point peace leaflet into the hands of Ex-servicemen. Copies from 147a High Street, Sevenoaks.

POISON PROBLEM

We can spend millions a day in war-time trying to kill one another but we can't exterminate the vermin poisoning our food.

T. A. WHITAKER
News Chronicle (Northern) Aug. 23.

CAMPAIGN COLUMN

No. 744

THE death of Olaf Stapledon, whom I knew slightly and came to admire more and more, has made me think a good deal about what we in the pacifist movement owe to our friendliest critics. And since then I have been strengthening my faith and stimulating my mental processes by looking through some controversial literature of the past.

I have come upon two Peace News articles which, to re-read, are rather startling.

One is a report of a lecture by Commander Stephen King-Hall, given in April 1946 for the National Peace Council. It headed, "Crisis with Russia in Seven Years." After stating that "the Anglo-Russian Alliance was unreal—a paper doc-

The odd mongers"

A lively paper, "I given parti arms iron war. It is Southern all from 1947 only business in of Czech o The sun the princip If the Mr. Chur crackin d tting weap hands, takes the the Gover for perm arms on helping t full produ der for th view is ri crackin Foreign T British en otherwise well-merit tributin of a revol It is, of Sir Godf agent well of Skoda a ance of a But the pores closed. —May 195

I am glad to remember that we, as Peace movement, advocated this "embarrassment" though not perhaps as clearly and frequently as we might have done.

After reference to the difficulties which Russia has been labouring under since 1945, he stated that if Russian economic plan did get into trouble, it would be up to democracies to say, "It is our duty as democrats to come to these people's rescue" that if we were able to make a response like that they might begin to believe there was something in democracy."

We can be very grateful for the leadship given to us by this far-sighted pacifist and wish his message had been more fully received by the Government and the public.

Turning to a prophet of our own, absolute pacifist, I should like to quote the following: "The condition of the continued existence of pacifism is that it shall have faith in the 'impossible.' It is at least clear that reality must kill pacifism or pacifism must demolish the contemporary reality," and recall at the same time the words of John Friend, in Peace News last week: "Without faith pacifism and altruism are foolishness, with faith they are seen to be elements in the strange communion of God."

Roy Walker, to whom we owe the first of these two affirmations, contained in an article entitled "Adam and the Atom" in Peace News for August 31, 1945, was writing very shortly after Hiroshima.

Disagreeing with Middleton Murry, the Time Editor of Peace News, that the world war might be avoided if Britain and America and Russia could agree upon an exclusive control of the atom secrets and therefore impose world domination. Roy Walker says, "We shall see world unity shattered if there is Anglo-American Russo-Anglo-American unification on the basis of their sole possession of the overwhelming destructive power of the atom."

We have had no chance of judging the second of these postulates. But the result of keeping atomic energy temporarily (which was all that proved possible) in British-American hands we are seeing.

Pacifists, in holding to their faith, have to take many of their steps forward in the dark, but in the light of our later knowledge I think it is sometimes an encouragement to trace the path by which we came and acknowledge our debt to some of our guides.

Emrys Hughes, M.P.

writes every week in

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